

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 094206 TOSEC 100055

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT MAPUTO 0418 ACTION SECSTATE INFO LUSAKA DAR ES
SALAAM GABORONE 18 APR

QUOTE

S E C R E T MAPUTO 0418

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TA, ZA MZ

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S TRIP TO AFRICA: POSSIBLE MEETING WITH
MACHEL AND KHAMA

REF: STATE 94130

1. EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT IF KAUNDA INVITES KHAMA TO
MEET WITH SECRETARY IN LUSAKA, THAT WE URGE KAUNDA EXTEND SIMILAR
INVITATION TO MACHEL AS WELL. OTHERWISE, MACHEL WILL BE THE
ONLY ONE OF THE FOUR FRONT-LINE AFRICAN LEADERS WITH WHOM THE
SECRETARY WILL NOT BE MEETING. THIS WILL NOT BE LOST ON MACHEL.
ALTHOUGH NYERERE AND KAUNDA NO DOUBT WILL TELL HIM THAT SECRETARY
EXPLORED POSSIBILITY OF MEETING THE FOUR LEADERS IN DAR-ES-SALAAM

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AND WITH THE THREE (LESS NYERERE) IN LUSAKA, HE MAY WONDER WHY WE

DID NOT EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF A SEPARATE MEETING FOR HIM WITH THE SECRETARY, AS WAS ARRANGED FOR KHAMA.

2. AT RISK OF APPEARING TO BE PAROCHIAL, IT IS EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT THAT

AT LEAST IN SHORT TERM MACHEL HOLDS THE KEY TO THE DIRECTION AND PAC
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OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD. AS RESULT OF MOZAMBIQUE'S LOCATION (BORDERING ON BOTH RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA), ITS RECENT INDEPENDENCE, ITS ACTION IN CLOSING ITS BORDER WITH RHODESIA AND FACT IT IS HERE THAT THE ZIMBABWEANS ARE BEING TRAINED AND FROM WHERE THEY ARE BEING LAUNCHED INTO RHODESIA, IT IS MACHEL, FOR THE MOMENT AT ANY RATE, WHO IS IN THE SPOTLIGHT. IT IS HE, MORE SO THAN NYERERE, WHO SEEMS TO BE THE "DARLING" OF THE COMMUNISTS AND THIRD WORLD RADICALS. IF CUBAN COMBAT FORCES ARE EMPLOYED IN RHODESIA, MORE LIKELY THAN NOT THEY WILL ASSEMBLE EHERE AND USE MOZAMBIQUE AS THEIR BASE OF OPERATIONS. MACHEL WOULD PROBABLY PREFER THAT MAJORITY RULE COME TO RHODESIA WITHOUT INTERVENTION OF OTHER OUTSIDE FORCES, INCLUDING CUBANS.

WE BELIEVE HE MAY HAVE FEWER RESERVATIONS ABOUT THEIR INTERVENTION THAN NYERERE. WHILE EMBASSY DOES NOT PRETEND TO KNOW THE MAN, AND OUR INFORMATION ON WHAT IS HAPPENING IN MOZAMBIQUE IS SPARSE, WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT MACHEL IS DRIVEN MORE BY IDEOLOGY AND A PASSION TO SEE AFRICA LIBERATED AND "REVOLUTIONIZED" THAN HE IS BY PRAGMATICISM.

3. BECAUSE OF MACHEL'S IMPORTANCE, WE THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE SECRETARY TO MEET WITH HIM, AS WELL AS FOR MACHEL TO BE EXPOSED TO THE SECRETARY. CERTAINLY IF KAUNDA IS TO BE ASKED TO INVITE KHAMA TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY IN LUSAKA, WE THINK KAUNDA SHOULD BE ASKED TO EXTEND A SIMILAR INVITATION TO MACHEL.

DE PREE

UNQTE. ROBINSON

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